

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Digital Repository

Volume 41 | Issue 3

Article 1

1979

Art Commemorates 100 Years of Veterinary Medicine

Joni Woodbridge
Iowa State University

Laury Goll
Iowa State University

Follow this and additional works at: https://lib.dr.iastate.edu/iowastate_veterinarian



Part of the [Interdisciplinary Arts and Media Commons](#), and the [Veterinary Medicine Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Woodbridge, Joni and Goll, Laury (1979) "Art Commemorates 100 Years of Veterinary Medicine," *Iowa State University Veterinarian*: Vol. 41 : Iss. 3 , Article 1.

Available at: https://lib.dr.iastate.edu/iowastate_veterinarian/vol41/iss3/1

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at Iowa State University Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Iowa State University Veterinarian by an authorized editor of Iowa State University Digital Repository. For more information, please contact digirep@iastate.edu.

Art Commemorates 100 Years of Veterinary Medicine

Joni Woodbridge*
Laury Goll†

To some, veterinary medicine and art may not seem to be closely related subjects. But for artist Dean Biechler, bringing the two together is a large part of his profession.

Two of Biechler's works, a cancellation stamp design for outgoing ISU mail and a six foot acrylic painting, have been chosen to commemorate the one hundredth year of veterinary medicine at Iowa State.

Biechler is the medical illustrator in the Biomedical Communications department of the College of Veterinary Medicine at ISU. He is also a freelance artist. Late in 1978 he was commissioned by the centennial committee to create a design to appear on all U.S. mail originating from the ISU campus.

His drawing (see figure) of the Gentle Doctor with the accompanying inscription was reduced in size and put on metal plates which stamp the design onto all outgoing ISU mail. The design went into use January 1, 1979, and will be used until 1980. Some mail may lack the stamp during this time, however, as plates without the special design are used when there is a large amount of mail to be processed.

In preparing for the 1979 SAVMA National Educational Symposium students requested Biechler to do a painting and chose

the design from several roughs. Dean first painted a four inch version of the six foot finished acrylic painting, the largest he has ever done. The painting, titled "A Century of Veterinary Medicine," uses warm brown and gold tones for the campanile and the Gentle Doctor and cool blues and greens for the background (see the cover).

Purchased and given to the College of Veterinary Medicine by the Class of 1979, the painting was displayed at the symposium, the centennial celebration at Homecoming and will now be hung permanently in the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Biechler is a Dubuque, Iowa, native. He began his years at Iowa State in the pre-veterinary curriculum but soon switched his major to art and zoology. He has held his present position at the veterinary college since his graduation with a Bachelor of Arts degree six years ago.

His freelance studio is in his home on a 60 acre farm north of Ames. Most of his work has been commercial art and commissioned wildlife paintings. Limited editions of a numbered and signed print of the painting and an antique bronze commemorative coin are available through Biechler at his studio, RR 1, Ames, Iowa.



Figure 1

*Ms. Woodbridge is a fourth year student in the College of Veterinary Medicine, ISU.

†Ms. Goll is a fourth year student in prevet/journalism. She is aiding the *ISU Veterinarian* staff as an intern for her journalism work.